

AMERICAN DRAGON: JAKE LONG

"Being Human"

(777A-230)

TEASER

EXT. NEW YORK SKYLINE - NIGHT

PAN ACROSS-- the skyline as we hear:

0 JAKE (V.O.)

0

My name is Jake Long and I'm the
American Dragon. Only this is the
week I wasn't. It's kind of a long
story, but I'll show you what I
mean...

EXT. WESTSIDE HIGHWAY (NYC) - 3AM

A TRUCK - moves down the Highway at top speed. Reveal DRAGON
JAKE hovering above, wearing a wireless headset.

1 JAKE

1

(into head-set)

Guys, I'm over the target. Trixie,
you copy?

REVEAL TRIxie - on a nearby rooftop, dressed in stealth ninja
gear. She speaks into her headset, focusing a pair of
binoculars at the rooftop across the street.

2 TRIxie

2

Most definitely. You ready to rock
and roll, Spud? (beat) Spud!

BINOCULAR POV SHOT OF THE ROOFTOP ACROSS THE STREET - SPUD
(in stealth ninja gear) is singing to himself.

3 SPUD

3

...he's cool, he's hot, like the
frozen... (realizing) Huh? Oh,
sorry. You ever get a song stuck
in your head and you have no idea
where you heard it?

NEW ANGLE - He begins to type furiously on his laptop,
speaking into his own headset.

4 SPUD (CONT'D)

4

Okay, I've tapped into the 32nd
street traffic signal which will be
turning red riiiiight... now!

He hits a button on his laptop, causing--

BEHIND SPUD - a HUGE NEON COWBOY switches to another neon pose with his leg kicked up. Spud notices this, and curiously hits the same keyboard button again. The cowboy switches back to his first position.

QUICK BACK & FORTH: Spud presses the button once, twice, three times. The cowboy "dances" to each of Spud's button taps.

5 SPUD (CONT'D) 5
<laughing> Look, guys. I'm making
the cowboy do a hoedown! Yee-haw!
Sing me some of that fiddlin'
music, Jedidiah! <hoedown noises>

6 JAKE/TRIXIE (FILTERED V.O.) 6
Spud!!

7 SPUD 7
Right. Less singing, more focusing.

Spud hits another key on the keyboard, causing--

THE TRAFFIC LIGHT NEAR HIM - to turn from green to red.

The truck stops at the light. Jake continues to hover above.

8 JAKE 8
(into headset)
Nice work. You guys sure you're
down? This mission could get
dangerous.

Trixie nods, holding up a GRAPPLING HOOK.

9 TRIXIE 9
(into headset)
Boy, please. I am dressed for
danger and accessorized for action.
Me and Spud will use these hooks to
repel down to the truck and--
aaahhhhhh!

Her grappling hook accidentally launches. She launches with
it.

QUICK CUTS: Trixie flies through the air, grapples into
Spud, tangling them together. Spud's grappling hook then
launches, sending both of them into the air--

10 TRIXIE/SPUD 10
<impact> --ahhhhhhhh! <impact>

--coming to a crash landing on the roof of the stopped truck.

INSIDE THE CAB - THUNK! The TRUCK DRIVER hears the noise,
checks his mirrors. Nothing. He shrugs

THE TRUCK'S ROOF - Jake dragons down and lands onto the
roof, where Trixie lays, tangled with Spud in grappling rope.

3.

	11	TRIXIE	11
	It's official. I've become Spud.		

Human Jake extends his dragon claws, using them to slice through the grappling rope, freeing the duo.

NEW ANGLE - He then blows dragon fire on the lock of a hatch, singeing the lock in half. He opens the hatch.

12 JAKE 12
C'mon. If we're gonna intercept
this stuff, it's now or never.

As the traffic light turns green and the truck begins to move again, Jake drops in, followed by Trixie and Spud.

INT. BACK OF TRUCK - CONTINUOUS - NIGHT

Darkness, until- POOF! Jake breathes a fireball onto his dragon hand, illuminating the cargo: a LARGE, MYSTERIOUS WOODEN CRATE.

INSIDE THE CRATE POV - The lid is removed and the trio looks down at us in awe, bathed in a golden glow.

13 SPUD 13

Whoa. They're more beautiful than
a school of mermaids.

14 TRIXIE 14
More valuable than leprechaun gold.

15 JAKE 15
And they're... ours.

REVEAL - the crate filled with MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARBOOKS.

JAKE, TRIXIE, & SPUD - hug each other and jump up and down with giddy, girlish excitement.

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16      JAKE/TRIXIE/SPUD                                16
      (in unison)
Sneak peek at the new yearbooks!
Eeeeeeeeee!

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SCRATCH TO:

OPENING TITLES

WIDE ANGLE - reveals they've walked out onto the football field, where a stage is being set up as well as rows and rows of white chairs. A huge banner strung along the goalpost reads "HAPPY GRADUATION." Jake gestures to the field.

32 JAKE (CONT'D) 32
 <sigh> Guys, middle school is over
 in four days and thanks to dragon
 business, I've totally missed out.

CLOSER ON THE TRIO - Spud puts a comforting arm around Jake.

33 SPUD 33
 Chin up, bro. Things have mellowed
 on the magical front, right? As
 long as they stay that way, you'll
 still be able to partake of the
 yearbook signings, end-of-the-year
 karaoke...

34 TRIxie 34
 ...Caroline St. Carmine's "Make Fun
 of Rotwood" Party...

Jake considers this, brightening.

35 JAKE 35
 Yeah, maybe you're right. Okay,
 starting right now, I'm gonna juice
 every minute of middle school for
 all it's--

Jake's phone RINGS. He answers it and yanks the phone away from his hear as Grandpa screams through the receiver.

36 GRANDPA (FILTERED V.O.) 36
 (yelling through receiver)
 Jake! Come to Grandpa's shop!
 There is a critical dragon
 emergency!

37 JAKE 37
 (slumps)
 --worth.

MAP TRANSITION TO:

INT. GRANDPA'S SHOP - DAY

An out-of-breath Jake bursts into Grandpa's shop.

38 JAKE 38
 <panting> Gramps, what's up?
 What's the emergency?

Reveal GRANDPA, SUN, and HALEY casually hanging out. Grandpa clicks a STOPWATCH.

39 GRANDPA 39
 It was only a test. Had this been
 an actually dragon emergency, my
 call would have been followed by
 official news or instructions.

Haley inspects the stopwatch.

40 HALEY 40
 Wow, Jake's response time was over
 twelve minutes. I composed my
 first symphony in just under nine.
 Wanna hear it? *

40A JAKE 40A *
 Pass, thanks. *

41 GRANDPA 41
 (to Jake)
 Dragon business may be slow, young
 one, but that is no excuse for
 laziness. Especially since Fu Dog
 and I are leaving tonight for our
 Dragon Council retreat.

FU DOG pulls a suitcase in from the back room, and begins
 backing DOG COLLARS into it. He oozes sarcasm.

42 FU DOG 42
 Oh, yeah. Me, the Old Man, and a
 bunch of stiff talkin' dragon
 politics for three days. Somebody
 pass the limbo stick. (beat) No
 really. Pass it to me. I wanna
 whack myself senseless with it.

Sun steps up, turning to Jake.

43 SUN 43
 Jake, while your grandfather's
 away, you'll be training with me
 and Haley. Won't that be groovy?

44 JAKE 44
 Heck yeah! What do you have in
 mind? A little meditation?
 (MORE)

JAKE(CONT'D)

One of those ooom-chaka-lacka
chanting deals? 'Cause compared to
Gramps, that'd be, like, cake.

THUNK! Grandpa drops a HUGE JOURNAL in front of Jake.

45 JAKE (CONT'D) 45
Um, that's not cake.

Haley clutches herself, overwhelmed with pity.

46 HALEY 46
(as if to a child)
Oh, Jake. That's called a book.
And the little squiggles inside?
Those are called words.

Grandpa addresses Jake.

47 GRANDPA 47
You shall spend the week with Sun
and Haley reviewing two-thousand
years of Dragon Council By-laws.

48 JAKE 48
Say what? Aw, c'mon, G. It's the
last week of middle school.
Graduation's on Friday. Can't I
just get a few days to hang with my
peeps and, you know... chill? Be a
normal kid?

49 GRANDPA 49
Young dragon, your magical
responsibilities must not be
overshadowed by "chilling" and
"hanging" with "peeps." You don't
see Fu Dog trying to get out of his
magical duti-- FU DOG! HANDS OFF
THE LIMBO STICK!

REVEAL - Fu Dog holding a LIMBO STICK over his head, ready to
whack himself over the head with it. He glares at Grandpa
and puts down the stick.

50 FU DOG 50
You take all the fun, you know
that?

SUBWAY MAP TRANSITION TO:

INT. SCHOOL GYM - NEXT DAY

Jake bursts in through the doors, with his P.E. uniform
askew, hair a mess, and bags under his eyes.

51 JAKE 51
 Sorry I'm late, coach! I overslept
 and--

SMASH OUT REVEALS - the gym is filled with boys and girls
 paired off. Trixie stands beside KYLE WILKINS; Spud stands
 next to STACEY.

52 JAKE (CONT'D) 52
 Uh, did I miss something?

Spud sidles up beside an "annoyed" STACEY.

53 SPUD 53
 Only my hi-larious scheme which
 resulted in Stacey being my
 graduation partner despite her many
 protests. It involved nunchucks
 and a stuffed giraffe. Trust me,
 dude. Hi-larious.

Trixie nods, excitedly gesturing to KYLE WILKINS.

54 TRIxie 54
 Yeah, and Kyle picked me to walk
 down the graduation aisle with him.
 (sotto, to Jake)
The Kyle Wilkins! Have I mentioned
 that he's fine--

55 ALL STUDENTS 55
 (with eyes rolling)
 --like lemon-lime in the summer
 time?

Trixie turns to Kyle, embarrassed.

56 TRIxie 56
 Heh. I have no idea where they got
 that.

Spud puts a sympathetic arm around Jake.

57 JAKE 57
 Wait. **We get to pick** graduation
 partners? *

58 SPUD 58
 Rotwood **made the announcement this**
morning, so we all picked. And you
 kinda just missed it. *

59 JAKE 59
What? No fair! I was up late
dragon training and I overslept
and...

(scans the crowd)
Did somebody already pick Danika
Hunnicuttt? 'Cause I was kinda
hoping--

60 TRIXIE 60
Sorry Jakey, but all the girls have
already been spoken for.

61 SPUD 61
Well, not every girl.

Spud holds up a FEMALE CPR DUMMY in front of Jake and
manipulates her arm to mimic a handshake.

62 SPUD (CONT'D) 62
Jake, meet Resusci-Patty, the
school CPR training dummy!

Jake just deadpans.

63 SPUD (CONT'D) 63
Okay, I know she's not much to look
at, but she cleans up real nice.
(then, covering)
Or, you know... so I've heard.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

JAKE - bursts out of the gym, followed by Trixie and Spud.
Snapping, Jake flings Resusci-Patty to the floor.

64 JAKE 64
I can't take this anymore! The
never-ending dragon training, the
complete lack of a social life, and
now my only possible graduation
partner is a stupid CPR dummy?!

Spud takes offense. He picks up Patty and manipulates her
hands to cover her ear holes.

65 SPUD 65
Words hurt, Jake.
(to Patty)
Plug your ear holes, Resusci-kins.

66 JAKE 66
Guys, I need a break from being the
AmDrag. Not forever, not a month,
just a week. Is that so much to
ask?

Trixie offers Jake sympathetic look.

67 TRIxie 67
Sorry, Jakey, but I'm guessing the
job of "American Dragon" didn't
exactly come with vacation days.

68 JAKE 68
Maybe not, but there's gotta be
something I can do to catch a
break...

69 BRAD (O.S.) 69
Attention, fellow Fillmorians.

REVEAL BRAD - addressing the crowd through a MEGAPHONE.

70 BRAD (CONT'D) 70
Thanks to the fine folks at
"Murray's Gag Shop," the Bradster's
fourth annual end-of-eighth-grade
prank is about to **splat** into
action! *

CUT TO:

INT. ROTWOOD'S OFFICE - SAME TIME

ROTWOOD walks into his office to find A CAKE WITH ROTWOOD'S
FACE ON IT sitting on his desk beside a large place card
reading "ROTWOOD -- EET THIS." (It looks to have been
written by a kindergartner.) Rotwood licks his chops.

71 BRAD (V.O., CONT'D) 71
It looks like an ordinary dessert-y
treat on the outside, but when
Rotwood cuts into it...

As Rotwood gleefully cuts into it--

EXT. OUTSIDE SCHOOL - ROTWOOD'S WINDOW - CONTINUOUS

BOOM! CAMERA SHAKE! Cake SPLATS against Rotwood's window.

72 BRAD (V.O.) 72
Ka-blam! And as long as you little
potty squatters keep your traps
shut, he'll never find out it's me!

SCRATCH TO:

INT. CAFETERIA - LATER THAT DAY

TRIXIE, SPUD & JAKE - eat their lunches. Spud tries to use a
STRAW to punch a hole in his JUICE BOX. It's not working.

73 TRIXIE 73
So Brad's suspended?

74 JAKE 74
You call the whole class potty
squatters, someone's bound to rat.

75 SPUD 75
(somber)
Poor Rotwood. Who knew cake could
do that to a man's face? (then)
Jake, punch a hole in my juice box
for me?

Jake discreetly extends a dragon claw and does the deed, much
to Spud's pleasure.

76 SPUD (CONT'D) 76
Awesome! (then, sipping) You
know, I never understood the whole
"suspension" thing. You do
something bad and your punishment
is that you don't have to go to
school for a week?

77 JAKE 77
Yeah, it doesn't really make--
(lightbulb) Hold up. That's it!
I just figured out how to get my
normal life back. Spud, you're a
genius!

As Jake runs off, Spud and Trixie just sit there.

78 TRIXIE 78
You? A genius? It's official.
The boy has lost it.

QUICK CUT TO:

INT. HALEY'S ROOM - THAT AFTERNOON.

CLOSE ON - an open page of the massive dragon by-laws journal. Haley's finger points to a passage.

79 HALEY (O.S.) 79
I found it. Section eight,
subsection fourteen, paragraph B.

REVEAL - Haley and Jake combing through the manual.

80 HALEY (CONT'D) 80
(reading)
"Behavior deemed irresponsible by
the Dragon Council shall result in
the immediate suspension of all
dragon powers and responsibilities
for the duration of one week."

She turns to Jake, a look of realization filling her face.

81 HALEY (CONT'D) 81
Wait. You're not considering... I
mean, you wouldn't dare... I'm
calling Grandpa!

Haley marches towards phone.

82 JAKE 82
And pass up being the American
Dragon for a week?

She spins around on a dime, her interest piqued.

83 HALEY 83
Pass-a-drag-a-what-now?

84 JAKE 84
(dangling the carrot)
You do know that you're next in
line if I'm deemed unfit to perform
my AmDrag duties, right?

PUSH IN ON HALEY - as her eyes light up with excitement.

85 HALEY 85
Me? As in "American Dragon: Haley
Long?"

FLASH TO:

CUE AM DRAG THEME SONG (ONLY SUNG BY A FEMALE VOCALIST)

We see Haley inserted into key shots of the main title instead of Jake: 1.) Flying high over the Central Park Unicorns, 2.) high-fiving the elf, 3.) flying into her bedroom just in time to avoid being seen by Mom, Dad, and Jake. She ruffles Jake's hair and leaps at CAMERA, as we--

FLASH BACK TO:

INT. HALEY'S ROOM - BACK TO SCENE

Haley eagerly turns to Jake.

86	HALEY	86
	Okay, so what are you going to do	
	that's irresponsible? And whatever	
	it is, can I help?	

87	JAKE	87
	(sly grin)	
	Thanks Hales, but I got it covered.	

SCRATCH TO:

EXT. ISLE OF DRACO - (SEE SEASON ONE) - DAY

WIDE ESTABLISHING - on the dragon headquarters.

88	COUNCILOR KUKULKAN (V.O.)	88
	Look, Councilors. How thoughtful!	
	The American Dragon sent us a cake.	
	Who'd like a slice?	

BOOM! CAMERA SHAKE! Cake SPLATS against the windows.

SCRATCH TO:

INT. DRAGON COUNCIL CHAMBERS - LATER

A sheepish Jake stands before a shamed Grandpa and DRAGON COUNCIL (now sans an injured Councilor Kukulkan), covered in cake. Splattered cake covers nearly every possible surface.

89	JAKE	89
	Look, I'm sorry about the cake	
	accident. I thought it'd be a nice	
	gesture, but I musta put in -- I	
	don't know -- too much baking soda?	

Grandpa can only shake his head in shame.

90 GRANDPA 90
Aiya.

91 COUNCILOR KULDE 91
Poor Councilor Kukulkan. I've
never seen cake do that to a man's
face.

Fu Dog can't help but chuckle.

92 FU DOG 92
<chuckle> Yeah. I mean with the
cake up the nose and all the
blowing, it was like <blowing
noises> and then the spraying,
going all <spraying noises>. It was-
(re: the council's looks)
--Not funny at all. Nosiree.

Jake addresses the council.

93 JAKE 93
Gee. I hope y'all don't have some
kinda rule against making a big
irresponsible mistake like that.

Councilor Kulde steps forward.

94 COUNCILOR KULDE 94
Per the Dragon Council Bylaws, we
have no choice but to officially
suspend you from the Dragon Order
for the period of one week. I am
sorry.

Kulde puts out his hand. The other Councilors each put a
hand on his. Their hands begin to glow and then suddenly
shoot out a blue beam around Jake.

The glow lifts Jake into the air and in a swirl of cool FX,
we see Jake's Dragon Chi rise out of him and transform into a
circular ball of energy. Jake drops to the ground as--

The councilors use the beam to guide the ball of chi onto a
stone pedestal. A GLASS CASE is lowered onto it. Councilor
Kulde puts a sympathetic hand on Jake's shoulder.

95 COUNCILOR KULDE (CONT'D) 95
For the next seven days, Haley Long
will step up as the new American
Dragon.

As Kulde walks off, Jake touches the glass case harnessing his dragon chi. He can't help but smile to himself.

96 JAKE 96
(quietly, to himself)
Wow. I'm actually... human. This
is gonna be--

SMASH TO:

EXT. ABANDONED ROCK QUARRY - NIGHT

CLOSE ON CHANG - grinning evilly.

97 CHANG 97
--Awesome. That, my friend, is the
only word to describe the power of
what we are about to unleash upon
the world.

WIDER - BANANAS B. is perched beside her. They look down at the base of the quarry as TROLLS move around rocks to create a mystical, ominous spell circle, lit by torches.

98 BANANAS B. 98
Right. Yous know what word is more
awesome than "awesome?" (flick
fingers) "Bangers!"

Chang shoots daggers at him.

99 BANANAS B. (CONT'D) 99
Or we's could stick wif awesome.

Chang smiles evilly, staring down at the spell circle.

100 CHANG 100
Once our spell is complete, all
human kind shall bow before their
new masters, and no one -- not even
the American Dragon -- will stop
us. <evil laugh>

101 BANANAS B. 101
<evil laugh> Awesome! (then)
Just hasn't got the same ring.

Chang glares at him as we-

CUT TO BLACK:

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. GRANDPA'S SHOP - FRONT ROOM - MORNING

ON HALEY - as Sun piles items (a CALENDAR, CELL PHONE, and a CUTE STUFFED UNICORN) into her extended arms.

102 SUN 102
Here you go, Haley: your new,
American Dragon training
schedule... a cell phone so I can
alert you when there's a magical
emergency... And this is "Madge,
the Motivational Unicorn," for when
things get stressful.

Haley curiously squeezes the unicorn.

103 MADGE (FILTERED V.O.) 103
You're special!

Haley puts the stuff down on the coffee table.

104 HALEY 104
Oh, Sun. I'm Haley, the *new and*
improved American Dragon. I grind
up stress for breakfast sprinkle it
on my oatmeal. Unlike Jake, I will
not be letting anyone down.

INT. BACK ROOM - CONTINUOUS

An apologetic Jake stands before a troubled Grandpa.

105 JAKE 105
Gramps, I'm really sorry I let you
down.

106 GRANDPA 106
I just don't understand how this
could've happened.

107 JAKE 107
Bad recipe, I guess. But trust me.
I'm gonna spend these next few days
as a powerless human reflecting on
the carelessness of my actions.

<PEPPY MUSIC> takes us into 'JAKE LOVING LIFE MONTAGE':

CUT TO:

INT. CAROLINE ST. CARMINE'S LIVING ROOM - MONTAGE - NIGHT

A party is going on. Jake stands in the circle of middle school kids (including Trixie and Spud), holding court. **He wears a monocle.**

*
*

108 JAKE 108
(as Rotwood)
My name is Principal Rotwood. I
believe in pixies and fairies and I
dance a mean schuhplattler!
<"dancing a jig" sounds>

*
*
*
*
*

109 VARIOUS STUDENTS 109
<raucous laughter: "Dude, this is
the best 'Make Fun of Rotwood'
party ever!"/ "Jake's **Rotwood**
impression rocks!"/ etc.>

*
*

Jake smiles, loving the attention.

WHIP TO:

INT. SUN'S TRAINING STUDIO - MONTAGE CONT'D - DAY

Sun looks on as Dragon Haley does a cool gymnastic style move across a balance beam, blasting various targets with her dragon fire. She finishes with a flourish, all smiles.

110 HALEY 110
<flipping efforts> Ta-da!

Sun hugs her.

111 SUN 111
Oh Haley, that was perfect! Now I
just need you to do the same thing
perfectly one-hundred and ninety-
nine more times!

Haley's smile falls.

WHIP TO:

INT. SCHOOL AUDITORIUM - MONTAGE CONT'D - DAY

PAN FROM a sign: "END-OF-SCHOOL KARAOKE DAY," down to Jake, Trixie, and Spud, who are on stage, wearing Run DMC-type track outfits, sunglasses, and clocks around their necks.

They dance a perfectly choreographed dance as they each sing the lyrics of an OLD SCHOOL RAP SONG into a mic.

112 JAKE 112
Yo East Coast, there's a party over
here--

113 TRIxie 113
Got some sneaks on my feet--

114 SPUD 114
And some rhymes in my ear!

115 SPUD/TRIXIE/JAKE 115
What?!

As they drop their mics to the floor and strike a pose, we--

WHIP TO:

EXT. HALEY'S SCHOOL - FRONT STEPS - MONTAGE CONT'D - MORNING

Haley runs up to school with bags under her eyes and her hair mussy. The bell RINGS. A disapproving MS. BURCH stands in wait, and hands her a PINK TARDY SLIP. Haley's horrified.

116 HALEY 116
What?! But Ms. Birch, I've never
been tardy my whole life! I was up
late last night doing my drag... I
mean... I... <frustrated sigh>

She begrudgingly snatches the slip and trudges O.S.

WHIP TO:

EXT. FRONT OF SCHOOL - MONTAGE CONT'D - DAY

A carefree Jake walks up the front steps exchanging yearbooks with a HIP ROCKABILLY KID, who then walks off, waving. Trixie and Spud approach Jake.

117 JAKE 117
Guys, isn't Cameron the best? Who
knew he sat on a bee last summer
and that his sister's a dental
hygienist in Fresno? Not me. I
was too busy dealing with magical
emergencies, but not this week.
Nosiree!

WIPE TO:

INT. SEWER TUNNEL - DAY

CLOSE ON DRAGON HALEY - looking disgusted and miserable.

118 HALEY 118
Sun, are you sure this qualifies as
a magical emergency?

SMASH OUT - reveals Haley waist deep in green sewer sludge.
Sun stands on a ledge, a safe distance from the muck.

119 HALEY (CONT'D) 119
I mean, if that annoying troll
woman was careless enough to flush
her wedding ring down the drain,
shouldn't she be the one down here
looking for it?

Sun just raises a disapproving eyebrow.

120 HALEY (CONT'D) 120
<defeated sigh> <deep breath>

Haley rolls her eyes and dives under the muck.

The MUSIC fades out as we END MONTAGE and...

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

The same student as before stands on the ladder, changing a
banner that reads "2 DAYS 'TIL GRADUATION" to "1 DAYS 'TIL
GRADUATION."

PAN DOWN - to Trixie, Spud, standing at thier their lockers
with Jake. Various students say "hi" to Jake as they walk
by.

121 VARIOUS STUDENTS 121
Hey, Jake. / Great impression of
Rotwood the other day! / Let's hang
later, kay?

122 TRIXIE 122
Gotta say, Jakey. I thought for
sure the whole 'losing your powers'
thing was gonna be trouble. But
it's been nice having you around
more.

123 SPUD 123
Totally.

124 JAKE 124
Well, it's been nice being around.
Seriously, I don't know how this
week could get any better--oof!

He turns, bumping right into DANIKA HUNNICUTT. You could cut
the awkward chemistry with a knife.

125 DANIKA 125
Oh. Hey, Jake.

126 JAKE 126
Hey, Danika. I, uh, haven't seen
you around much since--

127 DANIKA 127
We went out and you freaked out?

128 JAKE 128
Yeah, about that. Did I mention I
was sorry?

129 DANIKA 129
About two-hundred-and-sixty-three
times. For what it's worth, I
started forgiving you somewhere in
the two-forties.

The bell RINGS.

130 DANIKA (CONT'D) 130
I, uh, need to go talk to Rotwood.
Since Brad got suspended, I'm kinda
graduation-partnerless and--

Jake's face lights up.

131 JAKE 131
What? No way. Me, too! Why don't
we -- you know -- go together?

132 DANIKA 132
You and me? I- I don't know...

133 JAKE 133
Listen, I had a lot of stuff going
on back when we were hanging out, but
all that's behind me now. C'mon.
You and me. One night. No
flakiness. What do ya say?

A beat as Danika considers.

134 DANIKA 134

Well, considering that my choices
are between you and Resusci-
Billy... I'd have to say you're
definitely the better option. I
mean, at least you have real hair,
right?

135 JAKE 135
Last time I checked. So it's a
date?

136	DANIKA	136
(smiles)		
A date it is.		

As Danika walks off, we--

*

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. JAKE'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

A content and relaxed Jake lounges on the couch with his feet kicked up on the coffee table and his arms crossed over the back of his head. MOM and DAD sit on either side of him watching TV. <TV SFX WALLA> Dad observes Jake with a smile.

137 DAD 137
Ya know, little man, it's almost
like graduation's got some kind of
cosmic calming effect on you. I've
never seen you so relaxed. Haley,
on the other hand...

*
*
*

REVEAL A TRAUMATIZED HALEY - sitting on the steps, rocking back and forth, squeezing Madge, the Motivational Unicorn.

```

138      MADGE (FILTERED V.O.)                                138
You're special!      You're special!
You're special!

```

Mom calls over to Haley.

139 MOM 139
Haley, honey? You okay?

140 HALEY 140

We had a test at school today. I
didn't have time to study and I fai-
-fai-- (blurts) Failed!

Mom and Dad exchange shocked glances as--

Jake makes his way over to her, wearing a smug smile.

141 JAKE 141
(quietly)
What's wrong? Can't handle the
pressures of being the Am Drag?

142 HALEY 142
(covering)
What? No, just a minor adjustment
period. I'll be fine, really. I--

Haley is interrupted by her cell phone RINGING. She answers.

143	HALEY (CONT'D)	143
Hello?		

144 SUN (FILTERED V.O.) 144
Haley, Chang is on the move. I
need you to meet me at Magus
Bazaar, immediately.

WIDEN - as Haley realizes that Dad is standing over her.

145 HALEY 145
(badly covering)
What? Uh, sure thing... Old Man
Witherspoon. I'll pick up some of
that bunion cream and be over
lickety-split!

Haley hangs up the phone and bolts towards the door.

146 HALEY (CONT'D) 146
My, um... Adopt-a-Senior! Don't
wait up!

Dad scratches his head, curiously; Mom shrugs sheepishly.

CUT TO:

INT. WINIFRED'S CONCOCTIONS, BREWS & POTIONS - NIGHT

PAN ACROSS the dark and empty magic shop: from the aisles of
potions to the front door. Suddenly -- POW!

A huge blast rocks the shop. The smoke clears to reveal Dragon Chang with Bananas B. on her shoulder walking in through a large hole where the door used to be.

147 BANANAS B. 147
(flicks fingers)
Bangers! Now that's what I call an entrance.

148 CHANG 148
Quickly, my pet. Find me hydra scales and a phoenix feather, and our spell will be nearly complete.

As Bananas leaps from her shoulder onto the nearby shelves--

149 HALEY (O.S.) 149
And while you're at it--

Chang turns to see Dragon Haley and Dragon Sun behind her.

150 HALEY (CONT'D) 150
--How about I impede your forward progress instantly? <effort>

In a cool move, Haley leaps into the air and kicks the top of a shelf, causing it to topple down towards Chang, who leaps then flips into the air, narrowly avoiding impact.

151 CHANG 151
<leaping effort>

Sun nods, then tackles Chang--

152 SUN/CHANG 152
Good one, Haley! But we really need to work on your entrance lines. <charge effort>/ <oof!>

--plummeting them both out of the shop and into the Bazaar.

EXT. MAGUS BAZARR - CONTINUOUS

Sun and Chang crash to the ground.

153 SUN/CHANG 153
<impacts!>

Chang rises into the air, grinning maliciously.

154 CHANG

154

So. Jake Long sent little sis and her dragon master to do his dirty work. In contrast, defeating you both won't be work at all.

Chang shoots dragon fire at Sun who dodges the blasts.

INT. WINIFRED'S CONCOCTIONS, BREWS & POTIONS - SAME

BANANAS - scampers across the shelves, scanning for the ingredients. He finally finds a jar labeled "HYDRA SCALES" right next to a PHOENIX FEATHER.

155 BANANAS B.

155

C'mon, c'mon... (then, flicks fingers) Bangers! Hydra scales and a phoenix feather! I's got it!

Haley charges him.

156 HALEY

156

Oh no you don't, simian! <effort>

They comically tumble across the floor, wrestling for the ingredients.

157 BANANAS B./HALEY

157

<impact> <efforts> Get off me!/
<efforts> Hand...it...over!

Bananas pins Haley to the ground and looks up, spotting--

--a bottle on a shelf labeled, "ESSENCE OF TROLL."

BANANAS - makes a grab for it.

158 BANANAS B.

158

"Essence of troll," eh? Let's see what dis does!

Bananas uncorks the bottle. Haley's eyes go wide.

EXT. MAGUS BAZARR - CONTINUOUS

Chang shoots a blast of dragon fire at Sun, knocking her backwards into a booth, which collapses on top of her.

159 SUN

159

<impact>

As Chang smiles, victorious, we see a small magical <POOF> come out of the magic shop in the B.G. Bananas scampers out of the blast hole and up to Chang. He produces the Pheonix feather and the jar of hydra scales.

160 BANANAS B. 160
Yo, Changity-Chang. Me's got da
goods. Let's blow dis crib.

He hops onto Chang's shoulder--

Sun emerges from the rubble in time to see Chang fly off into the night.

SCRATCH TO:

INT. GRANDPA'S SHOP - NEXT AFTERNOON

GRANDPA - addresses an O.S. Sun and Haley.

161 GRANDPA 161
The important thing is that you are
both okay.

REVEAL - Haley's face now has UGLY TROLL-ISH FEATURES and she's none too pleased about it.

162 HALEY 162
Okay? You call this okay?! Not
only did I let Chang get away, I've
got a troll face!

FU DOG - looks up from the magical journal he's combing through.

163 FU DOG 163
Aw, c'mon, Haley. You look cute--
<gag> I mean, you look preciou--
<gag> Ah, who are we kidding?
Your face looks like your neck
threw up. On the plus side,
'essence of troll' usually wears of
in a couple of-- (concerned) Uh-
oh.

Something in the journal has caught his eye.

164 FU DOG (CONT'D) 164
Hey, Sun. What ingredients did you
say Chang escaped with?

165 SUN 165
Hydra scales and a phoenix feather.
Why?

166 FU DOG 166
Well, according to this journal,
those two things are the key
ingredients in a spell that will
bring the Dark Dragon back to
power.

Sun eyes widen in alarm. She steps up, reciting from memory:

167 SUN 167
*"And with the drop of a phoenix
feather, the dragon of darkness
shall rise from the ashes."* I know
that spell. But for it to be
complete, she'll need something
else.

Grandpa looks over Fu's shoulder at the journal.

168 GRANDPA 168
The "chi" of the American Dragon.

169 FU DOG 169
(re: journal)
It says here a drop of blood would
work too, but chi really avoids the
'ick' factor.

170 HALEY 170
But why didn't she come after me
when she had the chance?

171 FU DOG 171
Because as far as she knows, the
American Dragon isn't you, it's--

SMASH TO:

EXT. LONG RESIDENCE - SUNSET

Jake starts up the steps of the brownstone as--

172 DANIKA (O.S.) 172
--Jake!

Jake turns around, surprised to see-

Danika, walking up, holding a GRADUATION CAP & FOLDED GOWN.

173 DANIKA (CONT'D) 173
They handed out caps and gowns
early, so I picked yours up for
you. Hope that's alright.

She hands Jake the items. Jake is surprised by the kind gesture. But it's a good kind of surprised.

174 JAKE 174
Uh... yeah. Totally alright. Hard
to believe we're graduating
tonight, huh?

175 DANIKA 175

It's kinda sad, but at the same
time, it's nice to finally close
that chapter and move on to
something new. Know what I mean?

176 JAKE 176
I know exactly what you mean.

[illegible]

178 JAKE 178
Wouldn't miss it for the world.

As Jake watches Danika walk off with a smile--

179 CHANG (O.S.) 179
Tisk-tisk, Mr. Long.

Before Jake can react, Chang (in human form) grabs him, extending a razor sharp dragon claw. Jake drops his backpack.

180 CHANG (CONT'D) 180
Hasn't anyone taught you it's rude
to make promises you can't keep?

181 JAKE 181
What the--? Chang?!

(instinctively) Dragon uu---

Jake stops himself, realizing he's powerless.

182	JAKE (CONT'D)	182
Aw, man.		

CUT TO BLACK:

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

EXT. LONG RESIDENCE - EVENING

Grandpa walks out as Sun and Troll Haley wait expectantly on the porch.

183 GRANDPA 183
According to your mother, Jake
should've been home hours ago.

Sun holds up Jake's backpack.

184 SUN 184
We found his backpack on the
sidewalk. Chang must've already
gotten to him.

Haley hangs her troll head with guilt.

185 HALEY 185
This is all my fault! I had the
chance to stop him from pulling
that prank on the council and now--
(realizing, covering)
Oh, look! Azaleas are in bloom!

Grandpa's eyes widen in anger.

186 GRANDPA 186
Prank?!

187 SUN 187
Jake ditched his American Dragon
duties on purpose??

188 GRANDPA 188
<furious Chinese ranting> Of all
the immature, self-serving--!

Haley suddenly snaps, fire in her eyes.

189 HALEY 189
Hey! When was the last time either
of you were the American Dragon?
Well, as the little troll girl
currently filling the position, let
me tell you -- it's stinkin' hard!
I can't imagine doing it two more
days let alone two more years! And
to think about everything *Jake's*
gone through?

(MORE)

HALEY (CONT'D)

He's had to save magical creatures on a daily basis, lie to his own Dad about who he is, say goodbye to the girl he loved, all to protect a mystical world that nobody knows about. He may be the American Dragon, but he's also a fourteen-year-old kid who just wanted a couple days off. If that makes him immature, fine. But self-serving? With all due respect to both of you, step off!

A beat as Sun and Grandpa stare at her, completely stunned. Haley's eyes suddenly widen, realizing what she's said.

190 HALEY (CONT'D)

190

Heh. I crossed the line with the "step off" part, didn't I. Have I mentioned how stressed I've been lately?

A nervous Haley gives Madge a squeeze for good measure.

191 MADGE (FILTERED V.O.)

191

You're special!

After a long beat, Grandpa turns to Sun.

192 GRANDPA

192

Sun, you and Haley track down Chang and rescue Jake.

193 SUN

193

But, Lao Shi-- what about you?

194 GRANDPA

194

I have something to take care of.

CUT TO:

EXT. ABANDONED ROCK QUARRY - NIGHT

Jake is tied to a boulder by a magical, glowing chain. The boulder overlooks the mystical spell circle from earlier, lit by torches. Bananas is pouring the hydra scales into a roaring bonfire, safely contained within a circle of rocks.

195 JAKE

195

<struggling efforts> Yo, Chang.
Nothing personal, but I kinda got
some place to be. So if you don't
mind...

*
*
*

Chang steps up close.

196 CHANG 196
 Silence! These chains are
 reinforced with sphinx hair,
 rendering you powerless. In the
 meantime, the chi of the American
 Dragon is mine.

Like the Dragon council did earlier, Chang holds out her hand and drains Jake's chi, which rises out of him with a magical blue glow. (Only this time, the glowing energy doesn't take the form of a dragon.)

She flings the ball of energy into the center of the spell circle, as Bananas B. hands her the phoenix feather.

197 BANANAS B. 197
 Yo, Changity-Chang. Say dem magic
 words!

Chang walks towards to the bonfire.

198 CHANG 198
*"And with the drop of a phoenix
 feather, the dragon of darkness
 shall rise from the ashes."*

With a wicked smile, she closes her eyes and drops the feather into the fire. <DRAMATIC MUSIC SWELLS> ...And nothing happens.

JAKE - rolls his eyes, annoyed.

199 JAKE 199
 Okay, not a bad show, but the
 ending's not really living up to
 the hype. Can I go now?

200 CHANG 200
 Silence! Why didn't the spell
 work? (then) Wait. Jake's chi
 should've taken dragon form. *

201 BANANAS B. 201
 What're you sayin', den? He's not
 a dragon? 'Cause that would mean-- *

202 HALEY (O.S.) 202
 Right behind you, geniuses! *

Dragon Sun and Haley (still with a troll face) emerge from the darkness. Sun blasts dragon fire at Chang, who dodges.

203 CHANG 203
Wha--? <dodging efforts>

As Chang and Sun scuffle--

Haley blows dragon fire on the rear of the boulder Jake is chained to. The boulder blasts into pieces, freeing Jake.

204 JAKE 204
Haley?! <gag> What happened to
your face?
(his phone RINGS)
Never mind. Cover me for a sec?

205	HALEY	205
It's	what I do.	HI-YAAA!

She lunges at Bananas B. as--

Jake pulls out his cell, and answers.

INTERCUT W/ EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - NIGHT

The football field is lined with white folding chairs, the bleachers filled with families, and A CAP AND GOWNED TRIXIE AND SPUD sit with FACULTY on the stage. Trixie answers her phone.

206 TRIXIE 206
(concerned, into phone)
Yo, Jakey. Where are you?
Graduation's about to start and
Danika's been asking about you.

207 JAKE 207
(into phone)
Running a little late, but hey,
it's what I do. You and Spud cool
to--

208 TRIXIE 208
--cover for you? Hey, it's what we
do.

As she hangs up, we hear <POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE> begin.
Trixie grabs the mic.

209 TRIXIE (CONT'D) 209
Yo! Stop the music!

The band stops.

210 TRIXIE (CONT'D)
(into mic)

210

As student body co-president Trixie Carter, I'd like to introduce Fillmore's other co-president. Give a warm welcome to Arthur Spudinksi and his, um... comedy stylings!

Trixie shoves the mic at a stunned Spud.

211 SPUD

211

Wha--? I, um... <throat clear>
Who here would like to hear me play
"Old MacDonald" with my armpits?

As Spud indeed starts to play "Old MacDonald" with his armpits, we pan across a shocked audience.

EXT. ABANDONED ROCK QUARRY - CONTINUOUS

The battle continues between Sun and Chang.

212 CHANG

212

<battle efforts> Sun Park. I
thought you were all about peace
and love.

213 SUN

213

I am. <efforts> And what I'd really love is to give you a piece of this! <lunging effort>

Sun lunges at Chang who dodges, grabs Sun's tail, and swings her into a tree.

214 SUN (CONT'D)

214

Whooooaa--<impact>

Jake and Haley look on, horrified.

215 JAKE/HALEY

215

Sun !

Chang looks at Human Jake, then converges on Haley, eyes narrowing.

*

216 CHANG

216

So, I'm thinking Jake Long is no longer the American Dragon.

*

*

(MORE)

CHANG (CONT'D)

And since little sister is next in
line, that would mean you've got
something I want.

*
*

As Haley backs away frightened, Jake steps in front of her.

217 JAKE 217
Leave her alone, Chang. <impact>

Chang effortlessly bats Jake away, sending him tumbling into the dirt like a rag doll.

218 CHANG 218
Pathetic human. Who are you to tell me what to do?

219 GRANDPA (O.S.) 219
His name is Jake Long.

WHIP TO - Dragon Grandpa emerging from the darkness, holding a ball of magical blue energy in his open palm.

220 GRANDPA (CONT'D) 220
And he is the American Dragon.
<throwing effort>

Grandpa flings the ball of energy at Jake, who then rises into the air and in a magnificent swirl of FX, becomes a dragon once again.

221 JAKE 221
My dragon chi! But Gramps, how did you...?

222 GRANDPA 222
An early graduation gift from the Dragon Council. You've earned it.

Jake smiles appreciatively; Chang smirks.

223 CHANG 223
How very touching. Unfortunately, that chi is mine!

Chang fires a blue beam from her fingertips at Jake, which he counters with a huge blast of dragon fire. It's a beam vs. fire tug-of-war with Jake gaining ground. Meanwhile--

Bananas scampers into--

THE CABIN OF A HUGE CRANE

He begins to manipulate the controls.

224 BANANAS B. 224
No worries, Chang. I'll save ya!

Haley leaps into the cabin after him. She and Bananas wrestle for the controls.

225 HALEY/BANANAS B. 225
 Not today, monkey! <efforts>/Out
 the way, ya bugly troll girl!

As they wrestle for the controls--

QUICK CUTS - The crane's huge arm whips all over the place
 out of control. It scrapes across the quarry walls, causing
 boulders and huge chunks of rock to rain down around our
 friends. Chang takes a hit, falling to the ground.

226 CHANG 226
 <impact>

227 GRANDPA 227
 <dodging noises> Jake! Look out!

The large hook at the end of the crane careens towards Jake,
 who manages to move out of the way, but not before it cuts
 his arm (nothing graphic, of course).

228 JAKE 228
 Yeouch!

IN THE CRANE CABIN

Haley manages to kick Bananas out, he goes flying out of the
 cabin into the depths of the quarry.

229 HALEY/BANANAS B. 229
 <effort> / Ahhhhhhh!

THE BOTTOM OF THE QUARRY

Bananas falls to the ground beside a weakened Chang, as Jake
 hovers before them, triumphant.

230 JAKE 230
 Know what, Chang? I just realized
 something. Being the American
 Dragon kinda rocks.
 (points upward)
 Oh, and speaking of rocks...

Chang looks up--

231 CHANG 231
 Wha--? Nooo!

Chang and Bananas flee into a mine shaft as a mountain of
 dirt and rock bury the tunnel entrance, avalanche-style.

The dust clears, revealing Grandpa, Jake, Haley and Sun in human form, near the spell circle, now a pile of ashes. Sun uses her scarf to wrap the cut on Jake's arm.

232 GRANDPA 232
As I've said before and will surely
say many times to come: well done,
young dragon.

Jake hangs his head.

233 JAKE 233
Gramps, listen. There's something
I need to tell you. About the cake
accident...

234 GRANDPA 234
It wasn't an accident, I know. And
as a punishment, I'm cutting your
dragon training in half this
summer.

235 JAKE 235
Listen, I totally under-- say what
now?

236 GRANDPA 236
Jake, I train you hard because I
know what you have to face. But at
the same time, you're only fourteen-
years-old. You deserve some time
to "chill" and "hang" with your
"peeps."

237 SUN 237
And there's no reason why Haley
can't fill in from time to time.
She did a great job this week.

Now it's Haley's turn to be surprised.

238 HALEY 238
I did?

239 SUN 239
You most certainly did. But a
quick piece of advice? Stay away
from "essence of troll." Beauty
may come from within, but having a
troll face? Uh-uh, girl.

240 HALEY 240
Heard that.

Grandpa smiles, putting an arm around Jake.

241 GRANDPA 241
Come, young dragons. We have a
graduation to attend.

They all turn to dragons and fly off into the night. *

241A JAKE 241A *
So there you have it. The week I *
wasn't the American Dragon. *

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD - GRADUATION - NIGHT

Jake (in cap and gown) locks arms with Danika, also in cap and gown. They exchange a smile, and walk down the graduation aisle together. Over this, we hear:

242 JAKE (V.O.) 242
That night, at graduation, I got to *
thinking: Being human was kind of *
a wake up call. *

QUICK RE-USE SHOTS from previous episodes: Jake not only saving his friends, but using his dragon powers to help with everyday tasks (opening lockers, heating breakfast, etc.)

243 JAKE (V.O.) (CONT'D) 243
Sure, there have been some tough
times, but having magical powers
has kinda rocked. Not just in
saving the people I care about, but
in a 'cool, everyday' kind of way,
too.

244 DELETED 244 *

245 DELETED (CONT'D) 245 *

246 DELETED (CONT'D) 246 *

247 DELETED (CONT'D)

247 *

QUICK SHOTS: Trixie, Spud, and Jake each receiving their diplomas from Rotwood on the stage. Flashbulbs POP.

248 JAKE (V.O.)

248

I mean, don't get me wrong. Having a secret double life is always gonna be a balancing act. But with the help of my friends and family...

*

In the stands, Mom, Dad, Grandpa, Fu Dog, and Haley (in a wide-brimmed sun hat to conceal her troll face) wave excitedly. Mom snaps pictures repeatedly.

*

*

248A MOM/DAD

248A

Hold still, Jake! Just a few more pictures!/ Wooo! Way to go, Jakers!

*

*

*

249 JAKE (V.O.)

249

...I know I can totally face anything life throws at me.

WIDE ON FIELD - The graduating class throws their caps into the air, BLACKING OUT CAMERA.

EXT. ABANDONED ROCK QUARRY - NIGHT

From the BLACK of night, we pan to the crane hook dangling in the wind.

CLOSE ON THE HOOK - a single droplet of Jake's blood hangs from the hook, finally freeing itself and falling onto--

--the spell circle below, now just a pile of smouldering ashes. In a SWIRL OF MAGNIFICENT FX, the DARK DRAGON rises out of the ashes, unleashing a <THUNDEROUS ROAR.>

CUT TO BLACK:

END SHOW